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Fox Den on Your Property? Wildlife Officials Offer Solutions.

Foxes are known to be sly, but that doesn't necessarily mean not seen. It's breeding season and young foxes, called kits or pups, and their parents are spending more time outside of the den, making sightings more likely. What does this mean if you see one, or if you find a den near your property? Extension Biologist Falyn Owens at the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission offers several options.

"Foxes are well adapted to living around people and thrive in neighborhoods across North Carolina. If you spot a fox around your house or business, don't be surprised – it has probably lived in the area for years. Foxes prefer to be left alone and to leave us alone, though they will happily take advantage of abundant food and shelter, even if it brings them close to people."

Decks, raised porches, and crawlspaces offer protection from the elements and make their young perfect locations for a fox pair to raise their young. This may be

exciting if you enjoy watching wildlife and welcome the opportunity to view nature from your window, but not everyone welcomes these temporary tenants. The Wildlife Commission handles around 1,000 complaints every year about foxes, usually related to them denning under buildings or otherwise being too comfortable around humans. To reduce potential conflict between people and foxes, Owens offers these tips:

- Refrain from intentionally feeding foxes. They don't benefit in the long term by handouts from humans.
 - Close off crawl spaces under buildings, porches, and decks so foxes and other wildlife can't use those areas for resting or raising young.
 - Feed pets indoors or remove all food and dishes when your pet is finished eating outside.
 - Install sturdy fencing around dog runs, chicken coops and rabbit pens to protect domestic pets and poultry.
 - Walk your pets on a leash.
 - Use bird feeders that keep spilled seed off the ground, or feed birds naturally by planting native flowers, shrubs and trees in your yard.
 - Clear fallen fruit from around trees.
 - Teach children to enjoy wildlife from a safe distance.
- North Carolina is home to two species of foxes, the gray fox and the red fox. The gray fox is the state's only native fox species; red foxes were originally imported from Europe. They are both relatively small canids – about the size of a house cat – though red foxes have longer legs that make them look larger than their gray cousins. Unlike red foxes though, gray foxes are talented tree climbers, making them seem even more cat-like. In summer, both foxes trade a thick, luxurious winter coat for a much shorter summer coat that makes them appear sleek or "scrawny" by comparison.

Both species are found throughout the state, including in urban areas and suburbs. As with other wildlife species, foxes are very adaptable and often find residential areas to be excellent places to live and raise their young.

If a fox has established a den near your home and it's too close for comfort, there are several ways you can encourage it to leave on its own – no trapping required.

Humane deterrence options include:

- Visual: Place a spotlight or strobe light on the ground, pointed toward the den entrance.
- Audio: Play talk radio next to the den at high volume or frequently make loud noises in the immediate area.
- Physical: Install a motion-activated sprinkler near the den entrance or throw small objects in the adult foxes' direction to assert that their presence won't be tolerated.

It is illegal to relocate foxes in North Carolina, in part to prevent the unintentional spread of disease. As a result, any removals require that the animal be humanely euthanized.

Foxes only use a den while raising their young, so once the kits are old enough to fend for themselves – usually by mid to late summer – they will abandon the den and move on.

"It's helpful to nurse the den as a crib or nursery; adult foxes don't use them," Owens said.

For more information, read the Commission's "Coexisting with Foxes" resource. For questions regarding human interactions with foxes or other wildlife, visit ncwildlife.org/Have-A-Problem.



Brown Creek Soil & Water Conservation District has a 2008 Truax FLEX II-88 no-till drill for sale. This sale will be conducted by SEALED BID ONLY.

The drill can be viewed on Friday, July 23 at the Soil & Water Conservation Office, 1758 Morven Road, Wadesboro NC 28170.

Bids can be delivered by hand or mailed to the office at the above address. **The cutoff date for the bids is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 26, 2021.**

Any questions should be directed to:
Tina Rowell, District Director/Resource Conservationist at 704-694-3516 Ext. 3

TOWN OF WADESBORO JOB OPENINGS



WATER METER READER

The Town of Wadesboro will be accepting applications for a Water Meter Reader position in the Water Department.

Applicants must be of good character, dependable, and have a valid North Carolina driver's license. Class B or class A commercial driver's license is highly desirable.

The Town of Wadesboro is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, sex, national origin or handicapped status. Compensation is dependent on qualifications.

Salary range for this position is: \$28,455 - \$40,793 Annually.

Review of applications will begin immediately and position will remain open until filled.

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I

The Town of Wadesboro will also be accepting applications for an Equipment Operator I position in the Sanitation Department.

Applicants must be of good character, dependable, and have a valid North Carolina driver's license. Class B or class A commercial driver's license is highly desirable.

The Town of Wadesboro is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, sex, national origin or handicapped status. Compensation is dependent on qualifications.

Salary range for this position is: \$28,455 - \$40,793 Annually.

Review of applications will begin immediately and position will remain open until filled.

All full-time Town employees receive an excellent benefits package including health, dental, and vision insurance, NC state retirement system defined benefit plan, 401K, vacation and sick leave.

To ensure full consideration, applications should be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on August 6, 2021.

An application may be obtained in-person or printed from our website at: www.townofwadesboro.org/employment.

Applicant may also apply at the Wadesboro Town Hall, located at 124-126 East Wade Street between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

A full job description can be obtained at Town Hall.

TOWN OF WADESBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

JOB OPENING

The Wadesboro Police Department is currently accepting applications for a patrol officer position

Applicants need to:

- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Be at least 20 years of age.
- Be of good moral character as determined by a thorough background investigation.
- Have not committed or been convicted of a felony; a crime for which the punishment could have been imprisonment for more than two (2) years; a crime or unlawful act defined as a "Class B misdemeanors" within the five (5) year period prior to the date of application for employment; or four or more crimes or unlawful acts defined as "Class A misdemeanors" except the applicant may be employed if the last conviction occurred more than two (2) years prior to the date of application for employment.
- Be a high school graduate or have passed the General Educational Development Test indicating high school equivalency.
- Must be able to attend and complete BLET (Basic Law Enforcement Training certified by the State of North Carolina through a local Community College). All transportation and meals provided by agency.

Salary range for this position is: \$33,448.00 - \$40,598.36 Annually.

The Town also offers a wide range of benefits including health insurance, NC State Retirement, 401k, and other benefits.

Applications may be picked up in person, at the Wadesboro Police Department, at Wadesboro Town Hall, be sent to you by mail by calling (704) 694-2167, or be printed from the Town of Wadesboro's website: www.townofwadesboro.org/employment.

Completed applications need to be addressed to the attention of Captain Brandon Chewing. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled.

The Town of Wadesboro is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate in regards to race, sex, national origin or handicapped status.

Anson County – County-wide Zoning Ordinance Development (Phase 1)

Over the next year, Anson County will work to develop a draft county-wide zoning ordinance for the unincorporated areas of the County based on the recently approved comprehensive land use plan. The County will hold a series of open houses in July 2021 (first round) for residents to provide input on what they would like to see incorporated into a zoning ordinance. A second round of open houses for zoning ordinance development is planned to occur later this year in the fall. Development of a zoning ordinance is Phase 1 of the process, with Phase 2 being the development of a companion zoning map projected to begin in the spring of 2022.

Each open house will be open to the public from 6:30pm – 8pm. Please consider attending on the dates below at the specified locations. Each open house will include a PowerPoint overview on the purpose of a zoning ordinance and facilitated residents' feedback and input. Residents can attend one or all of the available meetings.

Date	Location	Venue & Address	Time
Thursday, July 22	Morven (South Anson)	HOLLA 229 Main Street Morven, NC 28119	6:30pm – 8 pm
Tuesday, July 27	Lilesville (East Anson)	Lilesville Fire Department 202 West Wall Street Lilesville, NC 28091	6:30 pm – 8 pm
Thursday, July 29	Polkton (West Anson)	South Piedmont Community College L.L. Polk Campus/Raye Community Room 680 US 74 Polkton, NC 28135	6:30 pm- 8pm

The content and process will be the same for each open house. Feel free to attend the open house that is most convenient to you. For more information, contact Larry Newton, Tax Director/Interim Planning Director at: larry.newton@anson.nc.gov

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